

## Egypt asks Iraq to probe deaths

CAIRO (R) — Egypt said Monday it had asked Iraq to investigate the deaths of several of its citizens after tests on their bodies raised questions about the way they died. Tests on the bodies have raised doubts around the cause of death. Interior Minister Mohammad Abdel Hafiz Mousa told Egypt's national Middle East News Agency. He said Egypt had asked Iraq to investigate. President Hosni Mubarak ordered an inquiry into the death of each Egyptian body sent from Iraq, following its Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait. Egyptian media reports said 82 bodies had been delivered to Cairo since then. Egypt is a leading opponent of Iraq. It had about 1.6 million citizens, mostly labourers working in Iraq before the invasion, and 150,000 in Kuwait. Mousa said last week that even before the invasion, autopsies on bodies of some Egyptians sent back from Iraq showed they had been murdered while Iraqi medical documents on the offings said they had died in accidents. Mousa, referring to bodies sent since the invasion, told the semi-official Al Ahram daily last week: "We have definite information some of them died on the Iraqi-Jordanian border and all were killed violently and in brutal attacks."

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## Senate panel voices backing for policy

AMMAN (Petra) — The Upper House (Senate) of Parliament's lawyer said he supported His Majesty King Hussein's pan-Arab stand. In a statement issued Monday, the committee voiced backing for the King's call on the Arabs, Muslims and world nations to commit themselves to the principles of justice and equality in solving the Gulf crisis and other explosive issues in the region such as the Palestine and the Lebanese questions by using the same scale and principles to achieve a comprehensive peaceful settlement in the region. The committee condemned the military buildup in the region and threats to use force in dealing with the crisis. It also called Arab foreign ministers to ask the United Nations Security Council for a meeting to bring an end to the practices of the Israeli occupation forces against the Palestinians and to ensure safety according to the United Nations resolutions.

## Taiwan to give \$30m to 3 countries

TAIPEI (AP) — Taiwan will give \$30 million in humanitarian aid to Jordan, Turkey and Egypt for refugees stranded in the Gulf as a result of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, Foreign Minister Frederick Chien said Monday. Chien said Taiwan will decide whether to give the aid in cash or in food and supplies after consulting with the three countries. Taiwan is not a member of the United Nations. But Chien said his country supports the international organization's call for a trade embargo against Iraq and for humanitarian aid to front-line countries. He said Taiwan would not provide military aid to help defray multinational defence costs in the Gulf because Taiwan does not have diplomatic ties with any of the countries involved in the effort.

## Iran revives links with Tunisia

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran and Tunisia reestablished diplomatic relations Monday after a 3½-year break, the Iranian Foreign Ministry announced. The official Islamic Republic News Agency quoted a ministry statement as saying the agreement followed talks in Bahrain between the Iranian charge d'affaires, Hossein Naraghian, and the Tunisian ambassador there, Nureddin Al Andani. The two officials stressed their country's commitment to "the principles of Islamic solidarity and the United Nations charter," the statement said.

Tunisia broke off relations with Iran in March 1987 after it accused Tehran of supporting Muslim fundamentalist groups seeking to topple the then President Habib Bourguiba. He was ousted later that year by his prime minister, Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali, in a bloodless palace coup.

## Kuwait to claim \$30b in reparations

DOHA (AP) — The toppled Kuwait government, once reinstated, will claim war reparations exceeding \$30 billion from Iraq, high-ranking Kuwaiti sources were quoted as saying Sunday. Of that amount, \$14 billion is the value of loans that Kuwait extended to Iraq during its war with Iran, the unnamed Kuwaiti sources told the Qatari daily newspaper Al Sharq. The amount will increase with the continuation of the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, they said. The sources said Kuwait would seek "material and moral compensation" for Arab and non-Arab communities that fled Kuwait after the Aug. 2 invasion.

## East Germany quits Warsaw Pact

EAST BERLIN (R) — East Germany, once Moscow's chief front-line ally, left the Warsaw Pact Monday ahead of unification with NATO member West Germany next week. Disarmament and Defense Minister Rainer Eppelmann, a pacifist pastor, signed the historic agreement in East Berlin with the pact's supreme commander general Pyotr Sapozhnikov. "With the signing of that treaty, East Germany left the pact," a ministry spokesman said.

## Mitterrand proposes four-stage plan for peace in Mideast

UNITED NATIONS (R) — French President Francois Mitterrand said Monday "everything would be possible" in resolving the Gulf crisis if Iraq withdrew from Kuwait and he proposed a four-stage plan for peace in the Middle East.

The French president, who spoke on the first day of the U.N. General Assembly's general debate, said "no compromise" was possible as long as Iraq continued to occupy Kuwait.

The "sovereignty of that country... is not negotiable," he said.

"If Iraq would confirm its intentions to withdraw its troops and free the hostages, everything would be possible," he said.

Then the international community would be able to guarantee the withdrawal of Iraqi forces

from Kuwait, the restoration of the sovereignty of Kuwait and "the democratic will of the Kuwaiti people," he said.

A third stage, Mitterrand said, would involve the international community, including Arab countries, in solving other disputes in the Middle East, such as the presence of foreign troops in Lebanon, the aspirations of the Palestinian people for an independent state and the right of Israel to live in security.

"Is this the end of hope?" Mitterrand asked. "Is there no more room for peace? We don't wish to announce such a verdict... I still have hopes."

Mitterrand said the ransacking of the French embassy in Kuwait by Iraqi soldiers on Sept. 14 and the seizure of French nationals was unprovoked and Iraq's apology was late.

"If there is a mistake why proclaim it so late and why increase the number of hostages with (new) victims?" he said.

The Iraqi action prompted France to send 4,200 ground troops to Saudi Arabia.

## Arab solution to Gulf crisis not at variance with U.N.—Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said Monday that Jordan is seeking to find a peaceful solution for the Gulf crisis within the Arab framework as called for by the United Nations.

In an interview with the American Cable News Network (CNN), the Crown Prince pointed out that U.N. Security Council resolution 660 clearly called for an Arab role to help find a solution to the problem.

"Jordan's position regarding Resolution 660 calling for the withdrawal from Kuwait and for an end to annexation also calls for a responsible Arab role to begin immediate negotiations, and so the idea of an Arab resolution is not at all at variance with that of Security Council resolution,

Prince said. This is why it is important for Arabs to deal with the issue, he added.

The Prince said that Jordan's geopolitical position makes it difficult for it to choose the easier option. Twenty-three years of occupation of Palestinian territories has embittered the Palestinian population, he said.

Jordan has been the closest witness of this reality, he said. "We have seen this on television daily like today we see the military action isolating the Gaza Strip," he said. "So people are genuinely embittered by the second phase of this crisis. The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait being phase one and military build up, phase two."

"People see that force and the threat of use of force is diplomacy

through other means. So they wonder why not the same pressure put simultaneously to solve the problem with Iraq and Kuwait and that in Palestine at least to accept the same principles of the inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by war," he said. "So this is the difficult side of it. It will be easy for us to concentrate on the immediate crisis and say we are doing the best we can or we have done the best we can and leave it at that and let things move on their own. But now we are continuing to nag for the possibility of a political settlement and that is what makes it so difficult."

The Crown Prince currently visiting the United States will meet with U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

## Saddam: Iraq will never leave Kuwait

AMMAN (J.T.) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein said Monday his country will never withdraw from Kuwait, even if it had to fight for 1,000 years to keep it part of Iraq.

"Kuwait belongs to Iraq and we will never give it up even if we have to fight over it for 1,000 years. This matter is closed," Saddam told a group of Islamic theologians with whom he met Monday.

The Iraqi News Agency and the Jordan News Agency, Petra, carried excerpts of his statement.

"Kuwait has returned to the Islamic faith after it had been turned into a haven for infidelity," he said.

Saddam briefed the theologians on the U.S.-led troop buildup afoot in Saudi Arabia, the agencies said.

He told the Islamic delegation,

which includes several Jordanians, that oil was a "blessing that should not be turned into a misfortune."

He said, "America poses a threat to mankind, emerging as a new tyranny in the world."

He said Kuwait's ruling Al Sabah family used oil to nurture and spread corruption, "saying the wealth was a blessing turned into a curse."

"Oil," Saddam added, "destroys faith after destroying morals." That, he concluded, left the region "facing great, not small, disasters."

Saddam said "good people" in the region were facing two problems: "The Palestinian problem and American tyranny."

"Palestine is for the Palestinians and Jerusalem should be liberated," he said.

He told the Islamic delegation,

to travel out.

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(Continued on page 4)

## Baghdad says it rejected U.S. 'offer' to allow Aziz flight

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Iraq said Monday it has rejected a U.S. offer to allow an Iraqi plane to fly to New York to participate in the U.N. General Assembly debate on the Gulf.

It said an unidentified assistant to Perez de Cuellar "notified the Iraqi mission at the United Nations that the American administration has proposed a deal that links between considering granting the minister's plane permission to land in New York and permitting the Americans in Iraq

to travel out."

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## U.S. shrugs off Iraqi warning

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The White House Monday shrugged off Iraq's warning that it would destroy the oil fields of the Middle East if its people were strangled, calling it predictable rhetoric from Baghdad.

"We get a daily drizzle from Saddam (Hussein) and this is one of them," presidential spokesman Martin Fitzwater said.

Fitzwater's remark came when

he was asked at a White House news briefing about the Iraqi warning Sunday to strike at Middle East oil fields and Israel if Iraq was strangled by the U.S.-led campaign to drive it out of Kuwait.

But he noted that President George Bush warned last week that any Iraqi-sponsored "terrorism" would have "serious consequences."

(Continued on page 4)

## Indian vessels dock in Iraq

BAHRAN (AP) — Three Indian ships, including one carrying 10,000 tons of food and medical supplies, docked at the port of Umm Qasr in southern Iraq Monday, shipping executives reported. Two of the vessels, the Tipu Sultan and the Akbar, will sail Tuesday to begin shuttling more than 100,000 stranded Indian refugees to Dubai. They will be airlifted to India from there. On their first outbound trip, the vessels were expected to carry about 2,500 refugees. The food ship, the 12,927-ton Vishwa Siddhi, was allowed to sail to Iraq by the United Nations Security Council as a humanitarian gesture despite a U.N. economic embargo imposed after Iraq invaded Kuwait Aug. 2. India got the green light despite strong opposition from the United States, whose naval forces are leading the international embargo. The Vishwa Siddhi, which also carried an Indian Red Cross representative, was expected to take several days to unload the relief aid. U.S. warships inspected the vessel outside the Strait of Hormuz, gateway to the Gulf, and before it entered the waterway to ensure that no prohibited goods were aboard. Umm Qasr is just inside the Iraqi border and 75 kilometres north of Kuwait City.



Photo by Yousef Al 'Aan

WAITING TO GO HOME: Asian children at an evacuee camp near Azraq (see page 3).

## King: Mideast events similar to those of 1914

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has said events in the Gulf crisis threaten to repeat those of 1914 "when the world stumbled into a war it did not want but could not stop."

Recalling the outbreak 76 years ago of World War I, the King wrote in Monday's editions of the *Guardian* of London and the *Washington Post* that he believes a war can still be prevented, but that if it comes the effects cannot be limited.

He wrote: "It is very disturbing that some believe military action is the only solution. This is dangerously short-sighted. The effects of a war against Iraq will not be limited to the confines of that country. They will reverberate in every capital throughout the Middle East. They will create the very instability such action was designed to prevent."

"As for victors and spoils, Middle East wars have produced neither, only graveyards for false illusions and the seeds for future wars."

Let us hope that a new world order can be established, but its foundation must be based on conciliation, not confederation, and on distributive justice and morality.

I fear the current course of events in the Middle East could, indeed, be a reply of August 1914. To repeat that scenario would be an inexcusable tragedy. If the same effort by the world community in the present marshalling of military forces, the imposition of sanctions and the commitment of colossal sums of money were to be applied to a political solution, I am convinced it could be achieved.

Following is the full text of the article:

Is it too late to prevent another major war in the Middle East? In the pace of events accelerating at such an uncontrollable rate that war is inevitable? Are the opposing parties so locked into their positions that a peaceful solution is no longer possible?

after a one-hour visit to the camp that he saw the owner of the gas station and at least a dozen shopkeepers removing the goods from their shops.

"People told me there might be 37 houses and shops demolished and that they expected it to be soon," Mahamid told the Associated Press.

In Tunis, senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) aide Bassam Abu Sharif said the demolition of houses in Bureij would be "brutal terrorist act."

Israel says it has demolished 304 Arab houses since the revolt erupted.

The Bureij camp, home to

(Continued on page 5)

## Israel to demolish Bureij shops, homes and expel residents

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israel will demolish houses and shops to punish the Palestinian refugee camp in the occupied Gaza Strip where an Israeli soldier was killed, military officers and Arab reports said Monday.

Israel is also considering the expulsion of Palestinians suspected of involvement in the killing.

The soldier was killed Thursday in the Gaza's Bureij refugee camp after his car hit a donkey cart, injuring two Palestinian teenagers. The Palestinian mob stoned him then set his car afire with his body inside.

Arab reports said the army ordered at least 20 families in the

Bureij camp to remove their belongings from their homes. Such orders usually precede the demolition of houses.

They also said the owners of 13

shops and one gas station were

ordered to vacate their premises, apparently in advance of demolition.

The gas station apparently was

the one from which Palestinians

last Thursday got gas-soaked rags that they threw on the soldier's car to set it on fire.

An Israeli military officer declined to say how many buildings were affected. He did not say when the demolitions would occur.

Hashem Mahamid, a member

of the Israeli parliament, said

(Continued on page 4)

rivals, incensed by the Western intervention in the Gulf. They want Tehran to help Iraq confront Washington.

Assad decided to extend his visit "due to the importance of the issues under discussion and the need to complete consultations," IRNA said.

The Syrian president said in a meeting with Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei Sunday that the views of both countries on the Gulf crisis were "close," Tehran Radio reported.

Radical Iranian leaders have been disheartened that Assad, out of self-interest, has turned his back to more than a decade of hostility towards the United States and basically supported Washington's policy in the Gulf.

Both Abrar and Kayhan questioned whether by aligning himself with the United States Assad had not abandoned its support of the Palestinian people, which Tehran considers the cornerstone of its own foreign policy.

"Damascus has always been regarded as an anti-Zionist stronghold, and many wish it remained so," Abrar said.

To dispel the notion that Syria had any intention of abandoning its anti-Israeli policy, and reassure its Iranian allies, Assad said Sunday, "we most always remember that Israel is the foremost enemy."

## Aoun says militias should be disbanded

BEIRUT (Agence) — Rebel General Michel Aoun has said he would cooperate with President Elias Hrawi's government only when all militias that fought in Lebanon's civil war are disbanded.

"I am ready for any sacrifice, effort and cooperation provided this will result in the emergence of genuine detente and consequently the rise of sovereign state on its territory mastering its decision-making," Aoun said.

"But the unity of the country cannot be accomplished unless all irregular guns are removed ... militias must be cancelled," he said in an "address to the nation" over his radio station.

That was his first official response to Hrawi's call upon him Friday to join forces with him to enforce a peace plan brokered by the Arab League last year to resolve the 15-year-old civil war.

Hrawi made the call as he signed into law a package of constitutional reforms that gave Muslims an equal share of power with the Christians for the first time since independence from France in 1943.

"Otherwise I will be forced to take the bitter decision of resorting to an imperative surgical operation" to crush Aoun's forces in the Christian enclave north and northeast of Beirut.

Aoun, a Christian like Hrawi, did not comment on the reforms or make any reference to Hrawi's threat of military action in his 15-minute radio address.

His stance appeared to suggest that he does not want to keep the door open for a compromise pro-

vided the rival Lebanese forces militia of Christian warlord Samir Geagea was eliminated.

Aoun's fought a nearly four-month war earlier this year with Geagea's 6,000-strong militia for mastery of the Christian enclave in Moscow last June.

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The acquisition of these fighters is a big boost for Iran's badly depleted air force, one of the main weak links in its armed forces.

Baker asked about an Iraqi document that quoted U.S. Ambassador April Glaspie as telling Saddam Hussein on July 25 that the United States would not involve itself in his dispute with Kuwait, insisted that Washington had made it clear that it would disapprove of an invasion.

"The suggestion that some of the United States contributed to Saddam Hussein's unprovoked aggression against this small country is ludicrous, absolutely ludicrous," Baker said in a television interview.

The daily stressed that "Iran's military purchases will not be limited to this newly acquired batch of fighters. Moscow has announced its agreement to sell more arms to the Islamic Republic."

It did not elaborate. But the Soviets are understood to have agreed to deliver tanks and other heavy weapons to Tehran under the \$6 billion economic and defense package Rafsanjani signed in Moscow in June last year.

## Iran has at least 14 MiG-29s

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## U.S. says it sent Iraq warnings against invasion

WASHINGTON (R) — Secretary of State James Baker, rejecting criticism that the United States did not warn Iraq against invading Kuwait, has said that Washington took several steps aimed at deterring and assault even as Iraq was massing troops along the Kuwaiti border.

He also said that bringing Israel into the Gulf conflict, as Iraq has threatened to do, would not necessarily unify Arab countries against the United States and its allies.

Although Baker declined to rule out military action by U.S. forces in the Gulf, he stressed that there are still several other options available besides the current United Nations-sanctioned embargo against Iraq.

"I think there are a whole host of other things that might be considered," he said.

Baker said a U.N. Security Council meeting this week may pass a resolution calling for an air embargo against Iraq.

He again ruled out any compromise solution to the Gulf crisis, short of a complete Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait and a full restoration of Kuwait's "legitimate" government before there could be negotiations between Kuwait and Iraq over their border dispute.

The Washington Post reported Sunday that senior U.S. army and marine corps officers had drafted contingency plans to mount ground assaults against Iraq from as many as four directions.

The plans were part of the military options being prepared for President George Bush in the event a United Nations trade embargo failed to dislodge Iraq from Kuwait and the administration decided to pursue a military option, the Post said.

The Iraqi document, described as a transcript of a conversation between Glaspie and Saddam, was translated and broadcast by ABC News and portions of it were printed in several newspapers.

The Bush administration has also come under criticism during the past week from Congress, with some lawmakers charging that the United States left the impression that it would not come to the defence of Kuwait.

Referring to a threat by Iraq to widen the Gulf conflict to include Israel, Baker said such a move would not necessarily diminish the first phase of a two-part

Defence Secretary Dick Cheney fired Air Force General Michael Dugan from the Joint Chiefs of Staff last week after Dugan revealed details of U.S. military contingency plans for any war with Iraq in interviews with the Washington Post and Los Angeles Times.

### Saudi deal

Baker also said the Bush administration was reading a plan to provide weapons needed immediately to protect Saudi Arabia and U.S. soldiers serving there.

"After the dust clears, they will see what their defence requirements are," he said. If the Saudis can't get what they want from the United States, they'll shop elsewhere, he said. Saudi Arabia is viewed as a good customer because it pays cash for weapons.

## U.S. ship prepares for massive Gulf casualties

ABOARD THE USNS MERCY (R) — Medical staff aboard the floating hospital ship USNS Mercy, a converted oil tanker on its first trip back to the Middle East, said Sunday they were preparing for heavy casualties in the Gulf.

"We are planning for a massive number of casualties," said Captain Paul Barry, the ship's chief doctor.

"That is what we are drilling for. If there were any hostilities, there would be great numbers in the first days."

With 1,000 beds and 900 medical staff the Mercy, like its sister ship in the Gulf, Comfort, is larger than any hospital in the state of California.

Doctors said they had been given extra training to deal with burns and blisters from Iraq's arsenal of chemical weapons.

Victims would first be washed in a decontamination area and they treated by skin specialists, plastic surgeons, or pulmonary experts if they had inhaled any gas.

Garth said although people were generally more frightened by chemical warfare, conventional war injuries were worst.

"Gunshot wounds, blast effects are much more likely to cause death than chemical or nerve agents," he said.

"Chemical warfare is scary but then war is scary ... it's not as scary as what we would see from conventional injuries if war breaks out," he said.

Doctors said the Mercy, painted white with three large red crosses on each side, would receive patients by helicopter or possibly by boat.

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the support of Gulf state Arabs for the troop buildup in the Gulf by the United States and its allies.

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## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Iraq completes pipeline to Kuwait

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said Monday it had completed a pipeline to supply part of Kuwait with drinking water from the Shatt Al Arab waterway. The newspaper Al Jumhuriya said the 40-cm pipeline, stretching more than 100 kilometres, was laid in 25 days. Iraq said Sunday its annexation of Kuwait, which it invaded on Aug. 2, was "eternal and irreversible." It had declared Kuwait its 19th province. The newspaper said the supply pipe would serve a border strip named Saddamia; Al Muthla after President Saddam Hussein. It was formerly Kuwait's Al Abdali. The project involved building 40 water storage tanks, two main pumping stations, and ten outlets for water tanker trucks. Al Jumhuriya quoted Iraqi government officials as saying the new supply would meet the needs of all towns and villages in the strip, about 10 kilometres deep along the previous border with Iraq.

### Le Pen condemns sanctions

PARIS (R) — French right-wing extremist leader Jean-Marie Le Pen has condemned world trade sanctions against Iraq, while former conservative Prime Minister Jacques Chirac sought clarification on the deployment of French troops in Saudi Arabia. In the first break by a mainstream politician from official French policy on the Gulf crisis, Chirac said President Francois Mitterrand's decision last week to send ground forces to the region need further explanation. He said in an interview on French radio that sending warships to enforce the U.N. trade embargo against Iraq was not the same thing as sending troops. "We have chosen another strategy, one of war," he said. "Therefore ask what is their mission and who will command our forces in the exercise of this mission?" French ground forces due to arrive in Saudi Arabia on Oct. 1, raise France's military commitment in the region to 13,300 men, 14 warships and 48 anti-tank helicopters. The French media has voiced concern as to whether France will be in command of its 4,200 men in Saudi Arabia. Le Pen, speaking at a rally of his National Front Party, said trade sanctions against Baghdad were unfairly starving the Iraqi people. "This is unworthy of civilised peoples," he said. "It is also unworthy to threaten these civilians with extermination by massive air raids."

### Australian pleads guilty to jumping ship

SYDNEY (R) — An Australian sailor who jumped ship en route to the Gulf after watching television film of U.S. President George Bush playing golf pleaded guilty Monday at his court martial to being absent without leave. Navy sources said Leading Seaman Terry Jones, 30, failed to show up when his ship, the guided missile frigate Adelaide, sailed from Perth in August. The five-member naval court martial granted Jones a three-week adjournment to prepare his case before sentencing. He faces a maximum 12-month prison sentence. Australia has sent two guided missile frigates and a supply ship to join the naval blockade of Iraq. In a statement after he jumped ship, Jones said: "After seeing one of the parties responsible for it all on holidays, playing golf while committing thousands of young lives including those of Australians — it was enough for me to decide not to be part of the killing."

### Battles kill five in S. Lebanon

BEIRUT (R) — Shi'ite Muslim militias, vying for control of their 1.3 million-strong community, fought in South Lebanon killing five people Sunday, security sources said. They said the pro-Iranian Hezbollah and the Syrian-backed Amal militia traded heavy artillery, mortar and rocket fire in the area of the Iqlim Al Toufah ridge 40 kilometres south of Beirut. Local villagers appealed in a statement to Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani and Syrian leader Hafez Al Assad to use their influence to end the long-running struggle between the militias. The two presidents were meeting in Tehran Sunday. Witnesses said the bombardment shell-pocked and set ablaze many houses. Three Hezbollah fighters were among the five killed, the sources said.

### Menem sacks adviser for breaking embargo

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentine President Carlos Menem has sacked one of his advisers for sending 140 tonnes of beef to Iraq, by way of Iran, in violation of the trade embargo. A government statement said Alberto Samid had been dismissed as a presidential adviser "for having collaborated with the government of Iraq in open violation of decree 1560." On Aug. 15 Menem issued decree 1560 pledging Argentine support for the United Nations economic embargo of Iraq. Samid, who is of Arab descent, as is the president himself, is a Peronist Party deputy for the Buenos Aires provincial government and owner of a meat packing company. He was one of the first businessmen to back Menem's successful bid for the presidency. In recent television interviews, Samid has openly expressed his support of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, and referred to "our brother Saddam" in praising Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. Argentina last week decided to send a destroyer, Corbeta and 450 men to join the multinational blockade of Iraq. The ships are due to leave the navy base in the Atlantic port of Puerto Belgrano Tuesday. In a radio interview, Samid said Menem did not know of the shipment.

### Algeria dissolves secret police

ALGIERS (AP) — President Chadli Bendjedid this weekend ordered Algeria's secret police dissolved in a move seen as a sign of his wish to appear forces for democracy in the country. The brief announcement said the general delegation for documentation as security known as the DGSD, would be replaced by a branch dealing exclusively with counter-espionage. The announcement comes days before the return from exile this week for former President Ahmed Ben Bella and about six months before the first multi-party legislative elections that could give Algeria its first pluralistic parliament in nearly 30 years. Ben Bella and other opposition leaders had called for the dissolution of the secret police as a sign of real democratization. The existence of the secret police was only made official with the resignation announcement Sept. 5 of its director, General Mohammad Betchine. He had been given the post after October 1988 riots that killed scores of citizens, mainly youths, and set in motion the process leading to pluralism.

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# Home News

JORDAN TIMES, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1990 3

## More medicine and food head for Iraq

By Mariam M. Shahin  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Approximately 400 men, women and children saw off a truck convoy of 30 trucks filled with foodstuff and medicine headed for Baghdad Monday afternoon.

The trucks, filled with JD 50,000 worth of milk powder, flour, oil, vegetables and medicine, represented the fund raising efforts of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) during the last 10 days, said Dr. Abdullah Khatib, president of GUVS.

"The 'donations convoy' was the third in a series which began five weeks ago in an attempt to supply essential needs to the people of Iraq after the U.N. imposed economic sanctions against Iraq."

"A gift from the children of the intifada to the children of Iraq," read the banners on each and every truck that were seen off by school children, mothers, officials and representatives of different religious communities in Jordan at the seventh circle on the airport road.

Khatib explained that almost the entire 30 truck shipment had been donated by the residents of four Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan. People from all walks of life joined the "farewell walk."

"I gave two dinars," said one ten-year-old schoolgirl, who attends a private school in Amman. She said her school had organised their participation in the fund raising event.

Two children from the Beqaa camp said that they had no money of their own to donate but they had taken flour from their homes in order to be able to give something to help the children of Iraq.

"We know they need our help," said one 11-year-old participant. "We saw on television that America wants to declare war on Iraq and that's why we are helping them."

Organisers said that "if people were in need anywhere in the world we would help — this is a humanitarian gesture."

## Orphanage children hold candle vigil to mark daily deaths of world children

By Serene Halasa  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Mabarrat Um-Al-Hussein (the orphanage in Marka) participated in a candle vigil ceremony on Sunday night. The candle vigil is an international event organised by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). On this day children worldwide light candles in remembrance of the estimated number of 40,000 children that die daily all over the world due to diseases, wars, famines or natural disasters. Pictures of the children holding the candle vigil ceremony at the Mabarrat Um-Al-Hussein will be sent to the World Summit for Children, due to convene at the United Nations headquarters in New York from Sept. 29 to Sept. 30.

"We want everyone to know that Jordan is interested in saving the lives of children all over the world. We have al-

ways believed in giving children a chance," a UNICEF representative who attended the ceremony said. She went on to add that approximately 3,000 children in the Middle East die daily. "This could be easily avoided with inexpensive measures, if the world only listened to the plight of the children," she said.

Mabarrat Um-Al-Hussein, founded in 1951 by Queen Mother Zein, houses today 145 children, 12 teachers and a housekeeping staff. It serves both as an orphanage and a foster home. It also serves as a school for the children. "We hold regular school hours, from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Graduates of our school receive a high school degree that will qualify them to go on with their higher education if they want to in the future," one of the teachers at the home said.

"I want to become a lawyer," one of the students

said. Another said he would like to study political science, to guide his country as wisely as King Hussein is guiding Jordan.

"The Queen Mother, the founder of this home, is actively involved in the orphanage activities. She is always interested in knowing things about the children, their education, their health. She also visits them often," Lamia Jodeh, one of the volunteers working at the orphanage, told the Jordan Times. She also added the children celebrate Mother's Day by inviting the Queen Mother to the orphanage.

"This is my home, I have been here for the past twelve years; the children here are like a family," one of the children, who is a tawjib student, said.

The orphanage receives donations from charitable

organisations and individuals. "We also have a very generous mysterious benefactor, who has been donating regularly \$500 a month to the orphanage, which goes to show you that there is still some good in the world," Jodeh said.

Asked what message the children would like to send to the leaders convening at the World Summit for Children in New York, Mazen Sayam, an 18-year-old at the home said: "We would like them to look at the future and at the children's future and to think before making military and political decisions, about the risks involved, not about their own personal gains."

Another student, Majdi Refa'i said: "Today's children are tomorrow's leaders of peace. We just want to remind them (the leaders of the upcoming summit) of that."

## Self-dependence, increased production needed under circumstances — Badran



Ibrahim Badran

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is the most severely affected country by the Gulf crisis, and the present difficult circumstances make it incumbent upon this country to become self-dependent and increase industrial and agricultural production, said Ibrahim Badran, secretary-general of the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

To face the current crisis and the difficulties the Kingdom is passing through Jordanians should develop their capabilities and potentials and find alternate methods to increase production, especially in industry and farming, and to cooperate with major companies to help them produce their requirements of spare parts for machines used in production process, Badran said at the opening of a two-day symposium on local industry and Jordan's food security strategy.

"The Ministry of Industry and Trade invites all those concerned with means of production to maintain contacts with the ministry department in order to obtain information and ideas about increasing production or to offer suggestions that can be beneficial for industry and agriculture,"

adapting to new situations.

The meeting, organised by the Jordanian Engineers Association (JEA) in cooperation with the Amman Chamber of Industry and the University of Jordan, is to study the role of local industry in times of crises, prospects for developing means of production by using locally produced materials, cooperation between the industrial and agricultural sectors with a view to ensuring food security for Jordan as well as the application of modern technology in industry and agriculture rationing energy consumption and other related topics.

JEA President Ismail Brewish told the meeting that the symposium "comes at a difficult time when the Arab Nation is facing challenges manifested in the presence of foreign forces in the Gulf and the ongoing embargo on Iraq."

"There is dire need now for industry and agriculture to double their efforts and boost production," Brewish said.

"JEA which is interacting with the fast moving developments in the Arab region, has organised the symposium as a contribution

towards finding solutions for current problems facing production," he said.

According to Khaled Kanaan from the Amman Chamber of Industry, food security has become closely linked to political independence as one can everyday witness instances in which the major food producing countries exercise pressure on the developing nations and impose their will on their future and political independence.

"For this reason, the industrial and agricultural sectors have a major role to play in the country to find ways to enable Jordan do without imports from other countries and improve the quality of local products," Kanaan said.

Several working papers are to be discussed during the symposium, held at the Amman Chamber of Industry tackling Jordan's prospects in food industries, the role of the Ministry of Supply in subsidising basic commodities and promoting the supply industry, the role of science and technology in promoting industry, the processing of fodder in Jordan and issues related to industrial financing.

## HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

### King condoles Rousan family

IRBID (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday delegated the governor of Irbid to offer his condolences to Al Rousan family on the death of retired army General Subhi Al Rousan. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan delegated the chief of police in Irbid to offer condolences.

### Abul Huda receives ambassadors

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Transport and Communications Nabil Abul Huda received in separate meetings Monday the ambassadors of Cuba, Chile and Lebanon to Jordan. Abul Huda discussed with the ambassadors ways to enhance cooperation between these countries and Jordan, particularly in the fields of transport and communications.

### Arabyat visits Maan governorate

MAAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Suleiman Arabyat Monday visited Maan Governorate to acquaint himself with the agricultural situation and projects in the governorate. Arabyat met Maan Governor Eid Al Qataneh and reviewed with him projects carried out to combat drought such as building earth dams, maintaining water canals and exploring new water resources. Arabyat also visited projects carried out by the ministry in Al Qasima, Hida and Al Shobak agricultural stations.

### Faqir takes part in Libya meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic affairs Ali Al Faqir is in Tripoli, Libya, to take part in the fourth conference of Islamic Da'wa. The five-day conference will discuss Islamic Da'wa affairs and the latest developments in the region. Faqir is accompanied to the conference by head of the ministry's Documentation and Da'wa Affairs Department Ibrahim Al Qasim and the ministry's Administrative Director Samih Athamneh.

### Brotherhood commemorates Intifada

KARAK (Petra) — The Muslim Brotherhood organised a public rally in the city of Karak Sunday evening to commemorate the 100th day of the intifada and to voice support for Iraq in its fight against foreign aggression. Brotherhood deputies Ahmad Kafawi and Yousef Al Athem stressed that the problems and hardships facing the Arab and Muslim nation can be solved through Islam. The two deputies lauded Jordan's stand on the

### Gulf crisis under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein.

They warned of the enemies' plans to Judaise the Arab lands and expel the Palestinian people from their land. They stressed the need to support the Palestinians in their holy war and to stand beside Iraq in countering the imperialist aggression.

### Ration cards can be obtained till Oct. 31

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayyoub announced Monday the period assigned for distributing food ration cards would be extended till October 31. In a communiqué issued to the committees entrusted with distributing cards, Ayyoub said this would give a chance to citizens to renew their family registration books which are a requirement for getting the ration cards. The ministry started early this month to distribute ration cards after the government decided to have a two-tier price for sugar, rice and powdered milk — one subsidised and the other at market rates — and allocated certain quantities of each for every family member.

### Exporters offer medicine to Iraq

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Exporters Society Monday presented medicine worth JD 100,000 to be added to the third charity convoy that left Monday to Iraq to support the steadfastness of the Iraqi people. An official source at the society said this shipment of medicines was the first donation by the society and would be followed soon by another one which would include medicine and food supplies.

### People's Army recruits graduate

DEIR ABI SAED (Petra) — Two batches of People's Army recruits graduated Monday. One batch was from the Jadida district in Irbid Governorate and the other from North Shuneh in the Jordan Valley region. The recruits received training in the use of light weapons, civil defence and rescue operations.

### Public holiday announced

AMMAN (Petra) — Monday Oct. 1, 1990 is to be a public holiday in Jordan in observance of the Prophet Mohammad's birthday, according to an official statement issued Sunday. It said that all government departments and public institutions would remain closed on that day and public and private organisations would organise special ceremonies in observance of the anniversary.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### EXHIBITIONS

★ Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zara displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-12:30 and 3:30-6:30).

★ Archaeological exhibition entitled "Al Lajina — a Roman Frontier Fort" at the Department of Antiquities' Registration and Research Centre, Jabal Amman.

★ Islamic book exhibition at the Yarmouk University.

★ Plastic art exhibition at the Jordan Plastic Art Association.

### FILM

★ German film entitled "Stockgut" at the Goethe Institute — 8:30 p.m.

## Abu Taleb receives British delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordanian Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb Monday received head of the British Royal College of Defence Studies, teachers and students' delegation which arrived in Amman Monday afternoon on a several-day visit to the Kingdom. The military situation in the region and issues of common interest were reviewed at the

### Azraq camp evacuees in good health — director

AMMAN (I.T.) — The general health conditions of residents at Al Azraq camp housing Asian expatriates are excellent, and the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS), which is in charge of the camp, is providing round the clock services, according to Bassam Al Hadid the camp director.

"No case of infectious diseases had been reported, but JNRCS normally refers to hospital certain cases which require proper attention," Hadid said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Monday.

He said that the camp, which houses nationals from Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and the Philippines, has recently been supplied with electric power to make things easier for the residents, while JNRCS relief workers tour the camp all the time to meet urgent demands.

JNRCS has divided the residents into groups of the same nationality and separated them from one another with a view to facilitating the process of offering aid and repairing and transporting them, Hadid said.

The overall medical services in the Azraq camp, which can accommodate up to 30,000 people, have been entrusted to Dr. Mohammad Al Hadid, JNRCS vice president.

JNRCS set up Al Azraq camp in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said Monday it had received a consignment of 1,000 blankets from the French Red Cross Society to be distributed to the expatriates living in the camp.

According to a spokesman for the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), 7,791 expatriates arriving here from Iraq and Kuwait had left the country by air Sunday. The Public Security Department (PSD) said that a total of 15,361 expatriates of various nationalities had arrived in Jordan and were put up in camps Sunday. Only 13,929 left the country on the same day.

## Press association demands new law on press, publication

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Press Association (JPA) is demanding a new law on press and publication which would give further impetus to the Jordanian press in dealing with local and international issues of concern to the country, JPA President Hashem Khreisat said in a statement Monday.

"The present law, which was enacted in 1973, is no more suitable and can by no means be of use in view of the fast moving developments and the democratisation process in Jordan," Khreisat said.

"The 1973 law provides for restrictions on the press and gives the executive authority the right to suspend a local newspaper and withdraw its licence without giving the press the right to contest such actions in courts," Khreisat pointed out.

"We want a new press and publication law that can offer the press more freedoms and remove restrictions that would limit the role of the national newspapers in dealing with various issues of concern to the public," Khreisat demanded.

He said that the democratisation process in the country had granted newspaper editors the right to decide on the type of



need for more improvements," said Khreisat.

With reference to the coverage of events, Khreisat said that newspaper reporters were satisfied with receiving news without going out into the field for a full coverage. "There is need for reporters and those representing the information services to go into the field and deal directly with those involved in the events so that reporting can be meaningful," Khreisat said.

Information and media services affect the whole society and can play a leading role in affecting socio-economic development and contribute towards better understanding among people, Khreisat pointed out.

"Since Jordan is embarking on a new phase in democratic rule, especially after finalising the national charter, which would open the way for political pluralism and the creation of political parties, there will be need for new daily and weekly papers to help express the public's views," Khreisat said.

He said that a new newspaper in the country should have objectives and meet the needs of large sectors of the public and reflect the orientation and thinking of the people.



Azraq camp offers more humane conditions to evacuees (photo Yousef Al Allan)

## New Azraq camp to replace Shaalan I

AZRAQ (R) — Jordan has opened a new refugee camp on its eastern border to cope with a possible fresh exodus of Asians from Iraq and Kuwait, officials said Monday.

They said the camp, set up by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), in a no-man's-land between Iraq and Jordan's Ruweisah border post, replaces the notorious Shaalan I camp, closed 11 days ago because of worsening conditions.

It is a reception centre in which all nationalities are separated before being sent to camps closer to Amman, a border official said.

He said the centre, a few kilometres west of the abandoned Shaalan I site, can now receive 1,000 people, but would be equipped to accommodate 5,000 by Thursday.

"We were lucky there were only 21 people in our tent. In other camps 35 people were crammed together," he said.

Some 40,000 refugees, mainly Asians, are now in Jordan daily on their way home.

Nine Bangladeshis were killed and 65 people, including Bangladeshis, Sri Lankans and Indians, were injured in two bus accidents on road from the border to Azraq Sunday, police said.

Some are staying in two camps near the border with Iraq and others in a small camp on the airport highway south of

People queuing for water

covered their faces with towels when a dust storm struck the tent villages.

"We were told in Baghdad that an Indian embassy convoy would take us to Amman, but when we arrived we were dumped in the camp," said Sara Kurien, an Indian sales executive from Kuwait.

"The camp is well-organised, but the whole ordeal breaks your spirit," she added.

Kurien arrived at Azraq I, run by the ICRC, on Sept. 20 with her parents, sister and cousin. She said her father spent his 60th birthday there but was in no mood to celebrate.

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MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

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## Leap towards peace

**FRENCH** President Francois Mitterrand's proposal for a four-stage peace plan to solve conflicts in the Middle East is one of the most significant developments that have come out of the Gulf crisis to date. It is also a crucial step for any constructive effort to solve all the area's problems peacefully and honourably.

Judging by the few details that emerged on the proposed plan last night, it may be premature to forecast whether the initiative will make it to the top of the ladder in efforts to reach a settlement, or it will be rejected by both the two sides on each end of the conflict's stupendous scale. Whichever way things go, however, the proposal is most likely to remain as an important yardstick for all the protagonists to consider and act on.

The fact that all details and thoughts are still not known about the plan does not mean that it cannot serve as a basis for future — or immediate — political work. Nor can its significance escape the attention of all the players involved in the huge mess that is called the Gulf crisis.

For one thing, its author is no less than the French president — a man who not only knows the Middle East and its problems very well but who is now also directly involved in the conflict. For another, Mitterrand would not have authored such a proposal had he not consulted with his allies in the West and sensed the pulse of others before hand.

As far as Iraq is concerned, the plan should have its merits and strengths. After "confirming its intentions" to withdraw from Kuwait, Baghdad can look kindly on and forward to stages that the plan is essentially made up of. A democratic sovereignty of Kuwait: meaning basically that the return of the Sabah family is not a size *qua non*. A direct link between a solution to the Gulf crisis and the Palestinian and Lebanon problems, based, most importantly, on the need for a Palestinian state and meeting the aspirations of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. Third, future agreements on armament control and removal of mass destructive weapons from the Arab region — from Morocco to Iran. And fourth, guarantees against military attacks on Iraq in the intervening period. Iraq might also look kindly on the plan for what was not mentioned in it — or deliberately left out. The questions of a special status between Iraq and a sovereign Kuwait, the Babylonia and Warb islands, the demarcation of new borders and the setting up of a pan-Arab fund for economic cooperation and development, or more precisely, the fair distribution of Arab wealth and know-how.

What is in the plan for the West? Withdrawal from Kuwait, the release of all foreigners, the implementation of U.N. resolutions, saving face and, most importantly, the prevention of war and bringing about lasting peace and stability to a region that is vital to the West's and the whole world's strategic interests.

We in Jordan, as in Iraq, as in many other parts of the Arab World, have not been seeing eye to eye with the French on their policy in the Gulf. At times we have even found it most difficult to understand their positions on the crisis. But now, with this initiative, President Mitterrand has taken a big step towards restoring confidence in France's ability and intentions to work with the Arabs for the common good of all. His peace plan is indeed worthy of pursuing and building upon as a genuine way out of the Gulf's terrible mess.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A decision by the U.N. Security Council expected Tuesday on the question of imposing an air embargo on Iraq will bring to the world one of two things: war or peace, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Monday. The paper said that Tuesday will see whether the United States can impose its will on Moscow, Paris, London and Peking altogether, forcing them to impose a new form of sanction on Iraq; and the Security Council meeting will be the final test before the world community, directing it towards war or peace. Should the council agree on an air embargo, war would become inevitable, because this decision simply means strangling Iraq, a move which will be opposed and confronted by the Iraqi people through conflict, the paper said. The paper said imposing an air embargo on Iraq is tantamount "to the declaration of war not only on Iraq but on the millions of Arabs and Muslims around the world. It will be a war waged by the devil and the evil forces against faith and the faithful in which various weapons of mass destruction will be used. It said, that such a war could not be limited in place or time or weaponry, because the Arabs and Muslims everywhere will take arms against the aggressors not only in the Gulf region, but any place in the world where interests of the various invading nations are located. Millions of Arabs and Muslims, the paper added, are now ready to confront the enemy any place and any time.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily described Saudi Arabia's decision to cut off oil supplies to Jordan and to reduce the number of Jordanian diplomats in Riyadh as a grave blunder which would do no good to the Saudis. Tareq Masarweh says that Jordan will not kneel to pressure although the Kingdom stands to lose a great deal from implementing the embargo on Iraq, and the return of its expatriates working in the Gulf countries. The writer says that Saudi Arabia has been provoking differences with the Yemens in the south and the Jordanians in the north for no reason, and they have been reassured in their new policies by the presence in the Arabian Peninsula of foreign forces with their weapons allegedly to defend Saudi Arabia. Jordan as a sovereign nation, and its people who have representatives in Parliament and democratic rule, have decided to oppose the presence in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf of foreign forces; and this is Jordan's views although they might not please the United States or its allies, the writer notes. He says that this stand can not be changed in order to win the favour of the Gulf countries, or to appease the United States. If the Gulf countries used to supply Jordan with financial assistance, he adds, it is in implementation of Arab League resolutions and not doled to Jordan by any Arab ruler, Masarweh notes. The Jordanian people, he says, realise the great sacrifice that will have to be offered as a result of their political stand, but will remain steadfast like the Palestinian people who have been holding out and struggling through their intifada against all odds.

Al Dustour called in its editorial for a political solution for the Gulf crisis and echoed His Majesty King Hussein's views that a war in the Gulf would result in untold devastation for the whole world. The paper repeated the King's warnings to the American people against waging a war or giving in to extremist policies, and said that Washington can achieve no gains from its on-going short-sighted policies in our region.

## The View from Fourth Circle

# Margaret, Popeye and the end of colonialism

By Rami G. Khouri

**AMERICANS** who still have trouble understanding why so many Arabs vehemently oppose the American-led military force in the Gulf should take a moment to assess the astounding and disgraceful performance of the American government on Sept. 18. On that day, U.S. State Department spokesman Margaret Tutwiler said the United States was "surprised and dismayed" at the fact that Jordan hosted a conference of pan-Arab leftist and nationalist forces, noting that "hosting the conference is very hard for us to understand."

I now know, for perhaps the first time in my life, how the people of Vietnam felt when they were confronted with the tremendous firepower of the American armed forces, combined with the tremendous arrogance of the American political leadership and a shameful yet powerful penchant for hypocrisy, racism, ignorance and double standards. I now know what drove the Vietnamese to use their bicycles to defeat the most sophisticated weapons the world had ever invented. And I know why the Vietnamese lost.

Tutwiler said the U.S. was "appalled" by statements issued at the conference to the effect that the Arabs should use all available weapons against the U.S. in the event of an American attack against Iraq. What does the United States expect Arabs to do if the U.S. attacks an Arab country? Cheer for the Americans? Buy U.S. war bonds? Why can the United States and its allies defend themselves collectively, but the Arabs should not be able to do so?

Tutwiler said the overt anti-Americanism at the conference was not surprising. Well done, it is inflammatory, we believe, to be duplicitous liars as the English and French were during World War I, when they laid the seeds for the problem that have faced the Arabs since. It is inflammatory for the United States to provide the virtually unquestioning political, economic and military support for Israel which maintains the longest military occupation of the 20th

century, keeps five million Palestinians in a state of disenfranchisement, and fuels the sort of anger which we have seen activated in many parts of the Arab World since early August.

It is also inflammatory for the United States to complain about public meetings in newly democratising Arab countries just because the tone of those meetings happens to reflect the powerful sense of anti-Americanism which dominates much of the Arab World. Why does the United States celebrate democracy in Eastern Europe, but complain about democracy in the Arab World? What are we supposed to think of this latest racist double standard from the land of Abraham Lincoln and Thomas Jefferson? That our Arab democracy must advocate American and British interests if it is to have political legitimacy and human value? Is our freedom and democracy only valid if we follow the sick example of some others in the Arab World who sell their souls and the nationalist memories of their grandparents for a promise of American dollars and all the hot dogs you can eat?

Tutwiler claimed that the overriding threat in the region was "Iraq's unbridled ambition, evidenced by its invasion and occupation of neighbouring Kuwait." Certainly, the Iraqi invasion must be reversed, and sovereignty must be restored to the Kuwaiti people, on the basis of U.N. resolution. But the Arabs could achieve this, if the Western powers leave us alone for long enough to do so.

"What's the real overriding threat in the region? It is nearly a century of arrogant Western powers who think they can manipulate the peoples, borders, resources and political alliances of the Arab World in

a manner that almost completely disregards the true sentiments and aspirations of the Arab themselves, in favour of the political, security and economic objectives of the Western powers.

The real threat in the region is the continuation of a political order which the British and French established here earlier this century, and which the Americans and Israelis have maintained — a failed and humiliating political order which has seen the entire Arab World enter the last decade of this century in a state of disappointment, confusion, regression and anger.

The most disgraceful and sad statement which Tutwiler made was that "the majority of Arab opinion, as embodied by the Arab League's recent actions and results" seems to support the American view of events in the region. This statement shows that the United States is once again making the same mistake it has always made around the world, especially in the Arab and Islamic worlds: it is placing its faith in leaderships who are not elected and who are not in any way accountable to their people. If the Shah of Iran were alive, we would hear the same nonsense from Washington, that he represented his people, while in fact he obviously did not. Let the Arab people speak freely, without domestic or international interference, and then let us see how many Arabs support the American armada and how many support the dream of an Arab Nation that is free and self-respecting.

We have the extraordinary situation today where the United States, an important source of global democratic tradition, is criticising the fact that Jordan, a newly democratising country, allowed a conference to be held which very accurately expressed grassroots sentiment in many parts of the Arab World — while at the same time the United States puts its faith in the positions of other Arab leaders whose people, in almost all cases, are not allowed to express themselves in freedom and are not allowed to participate in any sort of domestic political process which could give life to the great American principles of the consent of the governed and the accountability of public officials. George Washington must be feeling very uncomfortable in his grave. Margaret Tutwiler must feel like a fool.

The message from much of the Arab World is that the days of colonialism and imperialism have come to an end, and that the Arabs will not be the world's last colonies. Furthermore, faced with the combination of arrogance, lack of historical understanding and simplistic militarism which Margaret Tutwiler symbolised, many Arabs — especially those who are free to express themselves in their own country — have decided to stand up for once and speak honestly to the West.

Militarism and war should be avoided at all costs. But if they come, as they did in Vietnam and Afghanistan, they will simply prove once again that political disputes based on a denial of justice cannot be resolved by threatening or killing people. They can only be resolved by removing the causes of the injustices, and the internal imbalances in the Middle East stem largely from the Western habit of military and political intrusion into our affairs.

The United States and the West must understand this point, and behave accordingly. Or, they will face the humiliating and certain prospect of being beaten once again in the Third World — not by Asian people with narrow eyes and wide-brimmed hats riding bicycles, but by two hundred million dark-skinned Arabs wearing head-dresses and head-scarves and riding on camels and donkeys.

But things need not come to this. Why risk the massive damage to all of a Gulf war that could spread to other parts of the region, when our problems could be resolved if West stopped playing Popeye Hour and instead treated us with reason and fairness, instead of with contempt and racist double standards?

## South African lesson: sanctions alone may be too little

By Maggie Jackson  
The Associated Press

**LONDON** — World support, swift imposition, tough enforcement: sanctions against Iraq seem to have many of the ingredients which one group of experts say were missing in the case of South Africa.

However, experts caution against relying on sanctions alone. "Sanctions are a very blunt instrument," said Joseph Hanlon, coordinator of "South Africa: The sanctions report".

"They can be made to work... but they've never been an instant solution to anything," he said in an interview.

Hanlon and 20 others with expertise in sanctions spent more than a year in 1988-89, under the auspices of the Commonwealth, evaluating actions against South Africa.

They concluded that it was a mistake to impose the sanctions gradually over decades. Further, the measures were poorly enforced and only partial. Significantly, South Africa was never barred from exporting gold, diamonds and platinum.

Even so, the study said, sanctions did create pressure for change.

"After a decade of talking, negotiations became serious when Pretoria was under pressure. The sanctions were an essential part of the negotiating process, not an alternative

to it," the report said.

But "it is important to reiterate that sanctions — and especially partial sanctions — will not work on their own."

Both Iraq and South Africa are ripe targets for sanctions, as they are small, dependent on trade, and still industrialising.

Export sanctions were most effective against bulk products such as coal and fruit, which were plentiful around the world and easily detected in transport, the study said.

Nearly 60 per cent of South Africa's export earnings come from gold, platinum and diamonds, which were not subject to sanctions and in any case would be easier to smuggle.

With Iraq, only one export counts: oil, which is bulky and reasonably plentiful. Oil brought in \$40 million a day before the Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait, paying for imports of industrial raw materials and 80 per cent of Iraq's food.

Under the sanctions approved by the United Nations Security Council, Iraq's oil pipelines have been shut off, and tankers have been blocked in its harbours.

Iraq cannot give oil away — despite President Saddam Hussein's offer of free petroleum to friendly Third World states.

South Africa never experienced embargoes of that intensity.

India imposed the first sanc-

tions against South Africa in 1946, and many countries have followed suit. Reduced trade by nine industrialised countries alone between 1983-87 cut South African export earnings by seven per cent, the report said.

Yet lax enforcement and measures such as false labels weakened the campaign.

"It is clear from our analysis that sanctions will not be effective if imposed piecemeal over decades," said the report. It compared sanctions to antibiotics: Weak does breed resistance.

The report also recommended public government commitment to sanctions and tough enforcement.

Academic specialists on the Middle East say it's still not certain whether sanctions will work against Iraq.

"My feeling is that we won't succeed in sealing the borders 100 per cent," says Rosemary Hollis, an expert in Middle Eastern international relations. "However, one big thing Iraq can't get out is oil, and this causes money problems."

That is crucial, says Sir John Mooreby of the Royal Institute of International Affairs, an independent think-tank, because "you need money to break embargos".

It cost South Africa \$25 billion from 1973-84 to defeat an embargo on oil imports, the study said. Despite a manda-

tory world arms embargo — the only full United Nations action in this case — South Africa found ways to buy components.

Even before the Kuwait crisis, Iraq suffered shortages of hard currency because of lower oil prices.

What may prove crucial in Iraq is a factor highlighted by the sanctions report — morale.

In South Africa, the black majority's opposition to apartheid helped change policy, the report said. However, it said that more effective sanctions would have had a greater impact on the living standards of whites and undermined their will to hold out, the report said.

In Iraq, experts find it hard to predict the effect of sanctions on the people, who have virtually no political power, and on those in the inner circle of Hussein's government of minority Sunni Arab Muslims.

Philip Robins, head of the Royal Institute's Middle East division, believes Saddam enhanced his popularity at home by seizing Kuwait. The release of Iraqi prisoners of war from Iran — even at the cost of giving away all the gains of an eight-year war — was also apt to be popular, Robins said.

He and others believe that when sanctions bite, those in power will receive available supplies. "I don't think the world is going to starve Iraq into submission," he says.

In addition, the United States owes some \$500 million in unpaid past dues to the United Nations, an embarrassing situation at a time when Bush has relied on the world body as the hub of his diplomatic efforts against Iraq.

Baker and Brady returned home with \$20 billion in pledges. Roughly half of that will go to aid countries harmed by the United Nations embargo imposed against Iraq. The other half will go to offset U.S. costs.

Bush also wants to forgive \$6.7 billion in Egyptian debt as a means of rewarding Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's leadership in the Gulf crisis.

Frontline states such as Turkey and Jordan have been hit hard economically by the Iraqi embargo and are asking for aid.

Israel is claiming the need for new weapons to maintain its security in the increasingly volatile region.

Some, however, questioned the new strategy.

"This is a band-aid approach," said Robert Kurz,

(Continued from page 1)

Israel to demolish homes

(Continued from page 1)

Israel has expelled 61 Palestinians for "instigating and perpetrating anti-Israeli violence" since the uprising began in December 1987. The last expulsion was in August 1989.

Previous expulsions of activists, usually to Lebanon, have sparked further violence and brought human rights criticism of Israel from the United States and other Western countries.

Under military regulations, homeowners have 48 hours to appeal to the supreme court against demolition orders. The court has overturned only one such order since the uprising erupted.

Legal challenges against expulsions can take up to a year.

**Jordan Times**  
Tel: No. 667171

## Features

JORDAN TIMES, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1990 5

### Jordanians and Palestinians feel the pangs of the Gulf crisis

By Terry Leonard  
The Associated Press

**AL WHIDAT, Jordan** — In this dusty Palestinian camp, where slogans of rebellion are scrawled on the walls, a soft-spoken victim of Iraq's takeover of Kuwait calculated the heavy losses of his young life with a shrug and a prayer for peace.

Isam Al-Absi is 24, homeless, stateless and quite suddenly poor.

In the fallout of Saddam Hussein's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait, he's among the faceless numbers forced to forage on their wits, without recourse to government aid.

While world attention has fo-

cused on the military standoff in the Gulf and the plight of Asian refugees in desert camps, tens of thousands of Jordanians and Palestinians have quietly returned from Kuwait only to find jobs scarce and hope fleeting.

"In Kuwait we were stable," Al-Absi said. "We were set up in our jobs. We had good careers, cars, homes. Everything was complete for us. And now, we don't have a home, we don't have careers, we don't have cars."

The young civil engineer, whose family fled their homeland in 1948, said he left Kuwait last Tuesday, reached Jordan Wednesday and hopes eventually

to join his family stranded in Cairo, where they were vacationing when Iraq took over Kuwait.

Authorities in Amman estimate that half the 120,000 Jordanians working in Kuwait and an unknown number of Palestinians who were also there will return to Jordan, itself facing economic catastrophe from the Gulf crisis.

Finance Minister Basel Jarash said Jordan is considering what it can do to help. But for now it has no aid programme.

It's worried about how to absorb such huge numbers in a country where unemployment is already officially estimated at 15 per cent and where the economy is teetering on the brink of collapse.

"Nobody can find a job here," Mohammed Sabri said glumly as stood before his family's cement-block house on a rocky hillside in the small town of Awqan.

The 22-year-old Jordanian said he lost job selling used cars in Kuwait because all the cars were stolen from the dealership after the invasion.

Sabri, who holds a university degree in hotel management, said he has failed to find a job in Jordan and plans to return to occupied Kuwait in two weeks to look for work.

"If I could find a job here that would pay a salary of even JD 100 (\$160) a month I'd stay," he said.

Prince Sadrudin Aga Khan, the U.N. secretary-general's special envoy for humanitarian assistance related to the Gulf crisis, said last week that the Palestinian and Jordanian workers in the Gulf, along with thousands of Asian refugees, have to be considered victims of the crisis.

"For all these people it's a broken dream. All of them tell the same story. They became

desperate overnight," he said.

Al-Absi said that before the invasion he had money in the bank and a promising career.

But now, even if he could withdraw his frozen savings from occupied Kuwait, he'd lose more than 90 per cent of the value of the 3,000 Kuwaiti dinars on deposit.

Before the invasion, the official rate of exchange was one Kuwaiti dinar to 13 Iraqi. But now the occupation government has set the rate at one-to-one. Even if he could get that amount, it's against the law to take Iraqi dinars out of the country.

"I don't think anyone who stands on the side of truth is in favour of the invasion. But we're also against any harm to Iraq. We want this to end peacefully," Al-Absi noted.

He said he supports the U.N. sanctions against Iraq only if they will lead to a peaceful solution.

"But food and medicine must not be forbidden because there are people in Kuwait and in Iraq and they shouldn't die hungry or from disease," he added.

Al-Absi shrugged, then chuckled hesitantly when asked what he'll do next.

"I'm depending on my certificate as an engineer. I have good experience with computers so I could work in Egypt," he said.

But he noted that Egypt may not give him a visa because he's a Palestinian.

"My aim is to go to my parents. They, my brother and my sisters are in Cairo. They don't have enough money. They have nothing. So I should go and give them some clothes and as much money as I have," he said.

"I can't stay here. I can't go back to Kuwait," he said, shrugging. "If Egypt won't let me in, I don't know what I'll do."

### Arab leaders should be united but...

By Dalia Baligh  
The Associated Press

KHARTOUM, Sudan —

Egypt and Gulf states including Saudi Arabia are punishing Sudan for supporting Iraq's takeover of Kuwait, by withholding much-needed food and financial assistance.

The unannounced "mini-embargo" has not abated even after Sudan's military government, under pressure from the United States and Libya, moderated its strong backing of the Iraqi invasion.

Western diplomats who discussed the subject were unsure of the amount of goods and money involved. But they said oil was included, as well as food Khartoum wanted to counter a famine forecast for next year.

Saudi Arabia pulled back a shipment of 40,000 tons of wheat flour. Oil supplies from a number of countries are halted and several development projects financed by Gulf states frozen.

The Saudis no longer issue visas to Sudanese, cutting off a major source of foreign exchange sent home by expatriate workers.

Members of the Arab League split virtually down the middle after Iraq invaded Kuwait on Aug. 2. Almost half, including Sudan, supported or tolerated its move — the others led by Egypt and Saudi Arabia strongly rejected it.

The Saudis translated their disapproval into action.

Palestinian sources report that Riyadh froze payments to

the Palestine Liberation Organization. Jordan's last Saudi aid payment was said to be money allocated last spring, and Amman announced at the weekend that the Saudis were cutting off oil deliveries.

Diplomatic sources in Saudi Arabia said almost all diplomats in the embassies of Yemen and Jordan were being expelled. And Riyadh eliminated preferential treatment given to citizens of Yemen, causing major problems for hundreds of thousands of Yemeni guest workers and entrepreneurs.

Economic and political isolation has visited for Sudan, one of the world's poorest countries, even before Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

Human rights abuses by Lt. Gen. Omar Hassan El-Bashir's 15-month-old military government, its failure to end the 7-year-old civil war in the south and its inept handling of a bankrupt economy had sparked widespread criticism and loss of most Western aid.

Aid from Washington's stopped under a U.S. law cutting off countries where democratic rule ends in military coups, as happened in Khartoum on June 30, 1989. The European Community withheld around \$240 million for human rights shortcomings. Libya and Egypt stopped sending Sudan weapons after El-Bashir failed to act seriously to end the war. Iraqi arms replaced them.

In general, the strongman's position is precarious. Spiraling inflation and the coming famine have increased

hardships for the 26 million Sudanese. The country can't pay its \$13-billion foreign debt.

The International Monetary Fund denounced the Junta as uncooperative and threatened to break off talks on rescheduling the debt.

But the new strains in relations with Egypt and Saudi Arabia, and the aid blockage they're causing, will exacerbate the situation so much that Western experts said the future of El-Bashir's rule could be threatened.

Since the invasion, El-Bashir has visited Baghdad several times on the stated grounds of seeking a negotiated settlement. Sudan's government also has organized pro-Saddam demonstrations in Khartoum.

But senior Western diplomats said the unlikely partnership of the United States and Moammar Gadhafi's Libya have maneuvered El-Bashir into a more neutral position.

The change came in early September when El-Bashir for the first time condemned the invasion, while also denouncing the U.S. — led military buildup in the Gulf. Government-controlled newspapers also started highlighting meetings between government officials and the ambassadors of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, a state that Iraq considers has ceased to exist.

A diplomat said Washington was very concerned about the Sudanese support of Iraq, talked to the government about it and urged it to come out and denounce the invasion.

Another said Gadhafi, who has pressured El-Bashir into signing a series of unity agreements, played a major role.

"We think an important factor was Gadhafi's domineering over El-Bashir. This has resulted in the shift in Sudan's position," the diplomat said.

A third reason for the change, the diplomat said, is El-Bashir's mistaken idea that "if he takes a neutral stance, he can be a negotiator. He has no chance of that. He has no credibility".

Khartoum's official press has been trumpeting plans for El-Bashir to head for the Gulf to find a solution. Diplomatic sources in Riyadh said the Saudis told him he's not welcome.

"I think Sudan's position on the invasion is still a bit in balance with Iraq," said one diplomat, who like the others spoke on condition of anonymity. "I don't think Saudi Arabia is about to forget and forgive".

Col. Martin Malual Arop, a member of the ruling 15-officer Junta, refused to acknowledge a change and said Sudan always supported Kuwait.

"We have the clear statement of the president of Sudan. He said that Sudan abides by United Nations and Arab League resolutions, and Sudan does not encourage big countries to invade small countries", Arop said.

"However, Arabs should form a committee and talk to Saddam, so as not to make him obstinate".

### What are we doing?

The following letter was written by the president of the Atlantic Union College in South Lancaster, Massachusetts. A copy was made available to the Jordan Times.

Dear President Bush:

As a college president with professional and personal ties to the Middle East I feel I must express my concern over the current U.S. involvement there. A good case can be made for the view that your decisive action in the Gulf has up to this point kept the peace. My plea is that peace and not economics, retribution, or national pride continues to be the goal for which U.S. policy strives. While I speak for myself, a student editorial in the first issue of our campus newspaper shows that I am not alone in my concern. In fact, I would argue that our views are characteristic of academic thought leaders across the nation and around the world. My campus, for one, is very worried.

At this point it is not at all clear why we are in the Gulf. We are getting conflicting messages. Is it because we are making the world safe for freedom and democracy? Neither the Kuwaitis or Saudis are known for that and that point is not lost on the common Arab.

It is because we are protecting the Middle East from a madman? Granted he could wreak a lot of havoc but really, how much permanent damage could he do? He rules over one of the world's smallest populations (17 million) and it has no arms industry and cannot even feed itself. On the other hand he has given many poor Arabs courage, self-esteem, and a vision to live (and die) for.

It is because we want to play Santa Claus to our industrial competitors who need Gulf oil? That is certainly generous given our current economic plight at home. It's obvious that even though the U.S. (with 2 per cent of the world's population) uses 35 per cent of the world's oil production, we could get along without Gulf oil—even if we didn't want to conserve or find alternative energy sources (which we should).

Is it because we want to protect American lives? Let's remember there were no hostiles till we moved in our troops so we must have been willing to pay that price. At this point the best way to preserve American lives is not to go to war.

Is it because we want to protect a beleaguered Israel? If that were our real motive, we would certainly do all in our power to remain true to our friends of longstanding in the Arab world—not the least of whom is Jordan's King Hussein. With moderation gone, time is against Israel, it will be a question of not if, but when. Israel must make its own peace with the Palestinians or nothing we can do will save it.

Is it because we want to remain number one politically and militarily, if not economically? I hope not because our Judeo-Christian heritage teaches us that, "pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall" (Proverbs 16:18).

I hope it is not just plain greed that motivates American policy. Are lives of any nation worth sacrificing so that we can maintain our affluent lifestyle? The Arabs see this and loathe our hypocrisy. What else accounts for the inconsistency in the way the U.S. has responded to U.N. resolutions? It moved with alacrity to support Kuwait's territorial integrity but virtually ignoring for more than 20 years U.N. Resolution 242 calling for Israel's withdrawal from the conquest of the Arab West Bank and Gaza Strip. Please address this double standard. Don't defend it; apologize for it. Arabs forgive people of honesty and integrity who make mistakes.

Iraq's Saddam Hussein has definitely been the "bad guy" thus far. Please don't do anything that will give people anywhere in the world an opportunity to think you are competing for the title. Whatever we do must be done in concert with the United Nations and hopefully the Arab League; this is not a situation in which the U.S. should act unilaterally. If we do, we have not learned the lesson of Vietnam. Granted, we have not started a war by invasion (as has Iraq), but let us not start it either by retaliation for incidents or atrocities, large or small, real or imagined. If we are out to find a pretext for battle, one will surely come soon. And it will begin the escalation that will leave thousands dead on both sides of your line in the desert. Remember the lesson of the Iran hostages: don't type isolated incidents. Obviously my great fear is that the current situation could easily get out of hand. For the sake of presumed honour can we risk sacrificing human life in the desert? Or risk the anti-Americanism that would engulf the Arab masses—even in countries where their governments are now pro-U.S.? Or risk unleashing a "holy war" by Islamic fundamentalists that would make the U.S. marine incident in Beirut a match-box toy by comparison?

Keep cool. No one thinks you're a wimp any longer. You've proved your point. Now use our might in the service of a negotiated peace. Be willing to talk anytime, anywhere. Be magnanimous. Avoiding Armageddon and waging peace could be your finest hour.

Lawrence T. Geraty  
President

### Gulf golfing — oil money turns the desert green

By Andrew Quinn  
Reuter

DUBAI — This is one corner of the Gulf where U.S. President George Bush might feel right at home.

Rising verdant through the searing heat of the Arabian desert, the Emirates golf club stands as multi-million-dollar proof of the spectacular wealth of the Gulf countries lined up with the United States against Iraq.

With its 18 holes and manicured fairways, the Emirates Club has put an expensive new spin on Gulf golfing — once played only on flattened tracts of sand that had to be sprayed with oil once a month to keep from blowing away.

The desert course is the brainchild of one of the sheikhs whose families rule the region and control its wealth.

Sheikh Mohammad Bin Rashid

nearby desalination plant are hurled into the air by a high-tech sprinkler system that keeps nature at bay.

This is the only real golf course in the Gulf," said general manager Rodney J. Bogg, sitting in an air-conditioned clubhouse designed to resemble a cluster of traditional nomadic tents.

With its 18 holes and manicured fairways, the Emirates Club has put an expensive new spin on Gulf golfing — once played only on flattened tracts of sand that had to be sprayed with oil once a month to keep from blowing away.

The desert course is the brainchild of one of the sheikhs whose families rule the region and control its wealth.

Sheikh Mohammad Bin Rashid

appearance fees.

The planners spared no expense — par for the course in a country that has banked billions selling its oil to the West and Japan.

The Maktoums, who have also ploughed their oil wealth into one of the world's top stables of race horses, decreed a grass course should be built and put up the \$11 million it took to build it. It was finished in 18 months.

"Sheikh Mohammad built the course... and gave it to Dubai effectively as a gift," Bogg said, adding that the sheikh himself was not a golfer.

Emirates, designed by U.S. golf architect Karl Litten, hosted a European tour event for the first time in March 1989, bringing in many top names with generous

appearance fees.

The planners spared no expense — par for the course in a country that has banked billions selling its oil to the West and Japan.

After shifting 400,000 cubic metres (14 million cubic feet) of sand and slapping a foundation of gravel and fibre membrane over remaining dunes, the course was seeded with a hybrid grass flown in from Georgia, the state that hosts the U.S. masters at Augusta National.

Sprinklers were run 24 hours a day to give the greensward a chance against the brutal desert heat, and quick-growing trees were planted along the perimeter to provide a break against the sandstorms which buffet the area.

Bogg said early problems —

such as the occasional marauding camel and sudden sand-shifting after the terrain — were weeded out by the time the late Pakistani leader, Moammar Zia Ul-Haq, opened the course in March 1988 with a swing of a golden club.

Despite good conditions and year-round sun, the Emirates golf club is finding its hopes of becoming a key stop on the world golf circuit temporarily dimmed by the Gulf crisis.

European golf lovers, who were beginning to make the trek to the desert, are putting off vacation plans while the world awaits a resolution to the confrontation over Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of another oil-rich Emirate, nearby Kuwait.

"Obviously there is an air of

hesitancy," Boog said. "People see all this news, so they're not going to come."

While overseas visitors may be down, the club has a long list of resident expatriates waiting to join, he said.

Fee are reasonable by world standards at \$3,245 a year per family and \$2,400 for singles, but one round would cost \$270 — the price of a monthly green fee.

And another valuable market sector may be developing.

Bogg said the course has been approached by both the U.S. and British embassies to allow high-ranking military officers serving in the Gulf multinational force to use its facilities. Some had already played the course, he said.

### JORDAN MARKET PLACE

#### THE PROFESSIONALS ALWAYS CHOOSE THE RELIABLE

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## China extends winning streak to 1st 10 golds at Asian Games

PEKING (AP) — Another strongwoman and bugged cyclists extended China's winning streak to the first 10 gold medals of the Asian Games Monday.

Japan appeared likely to break that streak in swimming races Monday night, however. Japanese placed 1-2 in all four qualifying races in the morning.

Taiwan, back in the games for the first time since 1970, won its first medal Monday when Ni Chia-Ping placed second behind China's Xing Liwei in the 56-kilogram division of women's weightlifting.

Xing, the world champion, lifted total of 190 kilograms (418 pounds) in extending China's streak to four consecutive weightlifting golds. She fell 2.5 kilograms (3.5 pounds) short of the Asian record, but her snatch lift of 85.0 kilograms (187 pounds) broke the Asian mark of 82.5 (181.5) set by China's Bi Caijuan in 1989.

Ni lifted 180 kilograms (396 pounds), and Japan's Mami Abe was third with 167.5 (368.5).

In the men's 100-kilometre team time trial cycling race, China's quartet opened up a lead of

more than two minutes after 50 kilometres and held off Mongolia's challenge.

The Chinese finished in 2 hours, 4 minutes, 55.58 seconds,

breaking China's 2-year-old

Asian record of 2:06:22.5 and its

4-year-old games record of

2:08:28.462. Mongolia was

second in 2:06:52.25 and South

Korea third in 2:07:32.03.

Chinese coach Shen Jinkang

said his racers were too excited in

the first 25 kilometres, and that

affected their speed at the end,

when Mongolia narrowed the gap

slightly.

On the opening day of competition Sunday, Chinese athletes captured all eight golds: three in weightlifting, four in swimming and one in men's team gymnastics.

The Games' first winner was

Zing Fen, a 44-kilogram (97-

pounds) farmer's daughter who

lifted a barbell more than twice

her weight as the relatively new

sport of women's weightlifting

made its Asian Games debut.

Huang Xiaoyi, recovering from appendicitis, won at 45 kilograms with a total lift of 167.5 (368.5 pounds), below her world

record.

Competition in another sport

making its games debut, kabaddi, opened with China suffering its only major defeat of the day. India downed the Chinese 46-15 in this South Asia sport.

Taiwan is back after a longer

absence. It last competed in 1970,

as the Republic of China, but

after Peking's entry it was side-

lined by a dispute over its use of

the name China. It competes now

under the name "Chinese

Taipei."

In men's field hockey, Malaysia blanked China 3-0, South Korea trounced Hong Kong 8-0 and Pakistan drubbed Japan 11-1.

Nearly 4,700 athletes are ex-

pected to battle in 27 official and

two exhibition sports in the

games.

OLYMPIC silver medalist

Zhuang Yong led a 1-2 Chinese

team.

Sunday's games

New York 5, Boston 4

Baltimore 2, Milwaukee 1, 10 innings

Toronto 5, Cleveland 10, 10 innings

Minnesota 6, Texas 4

Kansas City 4, California 0

Detroit 6, Oakland 0

Chicago 2, Seattle 1

**American League**

### East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Toronto	83	70	.542	—
Boston	83	71	.536	1
Detroit	74	79	.484	9
Cleveland	73	81	.474	10½
Baltimore	70	81	.464	12
Milwaukee	69	83	.454	13½
New York	62	91	.405	21

### West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Oakland	97	55	.638	—
Chicago	89	64	.582	8½
Texas	80	72	.526	17
California	75	77	.493	22
Seattle	74	80	.481	24
Kansas City	71	81	.467	26
Minnesota	70	84	.455	28

### Sunday's games

New York 5, Boston 4  
Baltimore 2, Milwaukee 1, 10 innings  
Toronto 5, Cleveland 10, 10 innings  
Minnesota 6, Texas 4  
Kansas City 4, California 0  
Detroit 6, Oakland 0  
Chicago 2, Seattle 1

### National League

#### East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Pittsburgh	88	65	.575	—
New York	85	67	.559	2½
Montreal	81	71	.533	6½
Chicago	72	80	.474	15½
Philadelphia	72	80	.474	15½
St. Louis	68	85	.444	20

#### West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cincinnati	87	66	.569	—
Los Angeles	82	71	.536	5
San Francisco	78	75	.510	9
San Diego	71	82	.464	16
Houston	70	83	.458	17
Atlanta	62	91	.405	25

#### Sunday's games

Pittsburgh 7, St. Louis 2  
Atlanta 3, Houston 0  
New York 7, Chicago 3  
Philadelphia 2, Montreal 1, 10 innings  
San Francisco 6, Los Angeles 2  
Cincinnati 9, San Diego 9

### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH  
© 1990 Tribune Media Services Inc.

**THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN**  
Both vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**  
♦ 3 2  
9 3  
K Q J 10 9  
+ A K Q J 8

**EAST**  
5 4  
7 4  
10 7 5 4 2

1 8 7 6 3  
S 4 3

+ 10 9 8 5 4 3  
7 5 2

**SOUTH**  
A K Q J 10 9 8 6

+ A K Q J 8

Void

+ Void

**The bidding:** North-West: North-East: Pass-Pass

Opening lead: Ace of hearts

Always be on the lookout for the extra chance that might be the difference between victory and defeat. This hand was prepared for the inter-collegiate championships 25 years ago, and vividly illustrates our point.

The recommended opening bid on the South cards was seven spades, a grand slam that looks lay-down. Some students discovered the reason for this direct action to their cost—those who started off with a demand bid were far from happy when North converted seven spades

to seven in trump, even though that made on occasion when the opening lead was a club, or a heart and declarer guessed to take an immediate finesse for the ten.

Declarer ruffed the opening lead and in this case, ran off all the trumps. However, the solid minor suits were there for all to see in the dummy, so East did not let go a heart. Eventually, declarer started on the heart suit only to find that he had to lose there and no way to avoid it.

This is not really all that difficult a problem if hearts are 4-2, declarer can claim, so the right way to go about the hand is to test that suit—after drawing exactly one round of trumps! Now play just two rounds of hearts. If everyone follows, draw the rest of the trumps and claim. If, as here, one of the defenders shows out and also has no more spades, ruff your low heart with dummy's last trump, get back to your hand with a ruff, draw the outstanding trumps and claim.

What if the second round of

hearts gets ruffed? No big deal.

Since you were going to lose a heart anyway if you drew the trumps, the most you were investing was one extra under-trick—a picayune price to pay for a grand slam!

**Andy Capp**

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**IF YOU'VE GOT TROUBLES, ANDY, WE'RE ALWAYS OPEN.**

**THANKS, VICAR, CAN I SEE YOU ON MY WAY OUT?**

**IF YOU INSIST.**

**FROM THE CHURCH HE GETS COMFORT FROM THE VICAR, HE EXPECTS ASSISTANCE.**

**Yours truly,**

**ANDY.**

**PEANUTS**

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**IT'S VERY EMBARRASSING FOR A SQUAD OF TOUGH LEGIONNAIRES TO BE FOLLOWED ACROSS THE DESERT BY A BEACH BALL...**

**...AND IT'S NOT EASY TO GET RID OF IT.**

**ESPECIALLY WHEN IT GETS TIRED, AND I HAVE TO CARRY IT...**

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# Economy

JORDAN TIMES, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1990 7

## Arab World assets with BIS total \$163 b

**BAHRAIN (R)** — The Arab World's assets with the Bank of International Settlements (BIS) jumped 6.6 per cent to \$163.6 billion in March 1990 against the previous year.

Arab Banking Corporation (ABC), the Arab World's largest bank, said in a quarterly report assets of Arab states reporting to the bank stood at \$153.4 billion in March 1989.

ABC said net assets had rose 7.5 per cent to \$86 billion in the first quarter of 1990 against \$80 billion a year ago.

Arabs' debts increased by 11 per cent to \$113.2 billion at the end of December, 1989, compared with \$102.1 billion at the end of 1988, the report said.

Non-bank trade-related credits to Arab states rose 12 per cent to \$2.2 billion at the end of 1989 from \$2.6 billion a year ago.

The Bahrain-based bank, formerly owned by Kuwait, Libya and Abu Dhabi, made its first public issue of 25 million shares last May to boost its paid-in capital to \$1 billion and to set up a subsidiary to give it a foothold in Europe after 1992.

## Gulf crisis may halve EC's growth forecast

**BRUSSELS (R)** — A prolonged Gulf crisis could cost the European Community (EC) almost half its forecast economic growth in 1991 as well as sparking an upsurge in inflation, EC Budget Commissioner Peter Schmidhuber said Monday.

Even if oil prices peaked in early 1991 at \$30 a barrel and then fell back to \$20 to \$24 per barrel, this would slash 0.8 to 0.9 percentage points off growth earlier estimated to reach 3.1 per cent, he said in a speech.

But if oil were to stay at \$30 to \$35 per barrel, "we would have to figure on a reduction of economic growth of as much as 1.5 (percentage points) next year," Schmidhuber said.

Schmidhuber said rising oil prices would push up EC-wide inflation by an additional 1.3 percentage points and offset some of the positive impact of German unification.

The Gulf crisis has already boosted average inflation in the 12 EC member states to 5.9 per cent in the year to end-August, its highest level in five years.

Rising oil prices would also hinder efforts by the bloc to move towards economic and monetary union, Schmidhuber said.

## Australia agrees to privatisation measures

**CANBERRA (AP)** — The governing Labour Party Monday approved sweeping policy changes that lead to competition in telecommunications and the sale of the two state airlines.

The issue of privatisation had threatened to split the party, which had opposed any efforts to sell off government-owned enterprises.

The most divisive issue, particularly among unions, has been telecommunications. A number of overseas companies have expressed interest in entering the Australian communications market.

Delegates at a special party conference voted 58-to-43 Monday to reject an amendment that would have prevented a private competitor from competing against a concern formed by the planned merger of domestic carrier Telecom and overseas carrier OTC.

### AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Monday, September 24, 1990 Central Bank official rates					
Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell		
U.S. dollar	659.0	663.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	483.3	486.2
Pound Sterling	1217.2	1224.5	Dutch guilder	371.3	373.5
Deutschmark	418.4	420.9	Swedish krona	112.9	114.6
Swiss franc	500.4	503.4	Italian lira (for 100)	56.2	56.5
French franc	125.0	125.8	Belgian francs (for 10)	203.2	204.4

### LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.			
One Sterling	1.8615/25	U.S. dollar	
One U.S. dollar	1.1505/15	Canadian dollar	
	1.5675/80	Deutschmarks	
	1.7675/85	Dutch guilders	
	1.3055/65	Swiss francs	
32.22/27		Belgian francs	
5.2465/2515		French francs	
1169/1170		Italian lire	
135.60/70		Japanese yen	
5.7650/7700		Swedish krona	
6.0795/0845		Norwegian crowns	
5.9820/70		Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	390.75/391.25	U.S. dollars	

**TODAY AT**

**CONCORD** Tel: 677420  
Dured Lahham  
Madeline Tabar  
In  
**1-KAFROUN**  
3:30, 6:45, 8:45, 10:45 P.M.  
**2-SENIOR WEEK**  
5:15, p.m.

**NIJOUN** Tel: 675571  
Fuad Al Muhandes,  
Mohammed Subhi,  
Ibrahim Shahin  
In  
**ADOLESCENCE SITUATION**  
(Arabic)  
Performances: 12:30, 2:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.  
Friday & Sunday even show at 11:00 a.m.

## Japanese finance minister proposes overhaul of world monetary system

**WASHINGTON (Agencies)** — Japan's Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto proposed Sunday an overhaul of the world monetary system to bring more order to volatile currency markets.

In an address to the Interim Committee meeting of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Hashimoto said: "I wonder if it might not be possible, in a longer perspective, to explore a more stable monetary system that solidly substantiates spirit of cooperation."

He suggested major nations study the possibility of creating a new monetary system based on currencies in the "tried" of the United States, Japan and the European Community (EC).

The idea is likely to face opposition from some other countries from the Group of Seven (G-7), which comprises the United States, Japan, Germany, France, Britain, Italy and Canada.

Bundesbank board member Hans Tietmeyer said Sunday the Japanese idea had been discussed by G-7 deputies in Paris earlier

this month. He saw nothing new in the Japanese proposals.

In his speech, Hashimoto fell short of providing any details of the Japanese plan, but a senior finance ministry official said Tokyo may explore an idea of setting up a "reference range" or a target zone for the dollar, the yen and a basket of European currencies.

"We don't think we should give up the present floating rate system and move back to the rigid fixed exchange rate regime. But it is always a good idea to have loose reference ranges," said.

Under the reference range system, currencies are allowed to move only within set ranges, and central banks are required to intervene whenever the currencies move out of those ranges.

"There is no joint position on the idea of formalising target ranges for currencies. The G-7 deputies talked about this idea, but the only thing where we have consensus is on the flexible form of cooperation that we have at the moment," Bundesbank's Tietmeyer said.

He said Japan sees the need to begin the study because the EC is now moving fast toward a unified market and a unified currency.

"Given the accelerated movement for economic and currency integration in Europe," Japan has come to realise that measures

should be worked out to secure a stable relationship among currencies in the United States, Japan and the EC, Hashimoto told the IMF meeting.

On the Gulf crisis, Hashimoto declared that world financial institutions have an "extremely critical" role to play. IMF is expected to promote efforts of its member nations to adjust to the impact of higher oil prices and loss of trade.

"The reference range is an idea we have used so far within the framework of the floating rate system, and could be employed under the proposed new regime," one Japanese finance ministry official said.

However, any reference range would not be publicised because it could invite a lot of currency speculation, he said.

The ministry official said Japan would actively study the issue by taking every possibilities into consideration and hopes to come up with a specific proposal at a "certain point" in the future.

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## IMF approves expedient effort to help states hurt by Gulf crisis

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) gave approval Monday to an accelerated effort to supply billions of dollars to help countries hurt by the Gulf crisis.

The approval by the IMF's policy-making Interim Committee represented a victory for the U.S. government, which is counting on both the IMF and its sister lending agency, the World Bank, to help in the international effort to isolate Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

In a final communiqué, the IMF Interim Committee directed the staff of the international lending agency to "respond on an expedited basis to present difficulties."

GIB said it would also open a representative office in the UAE before the end of 1990 to "support and develop trade and investment flows between the UAE, Gulf Arab states and the rest of the world."

The bank is owned by the governments of Bahrain, Iraq, Oman, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

GIB Chairman Abdullah Saif said "by establishing ourselves in Oman and the UAE, we will be better placed to serve local requirements."

Self, who is also governor of Bahrain Monetary Agency, said "the banks maintains full confidence in the long-term economic prospects of the region and in spite of current circumstances we are resolved to forge ahead with our development plans."

He was apparently referring to the Gulf crisis caused by Iraq's takeover of Kuwait, a member of the GIB.

It has been established to provide a broad range of corporate financial services, to promote business expansion and to support the development of capital markets in Oman," the statement said.

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## Liberian rebel leader calls for elections on Oct. 10

ABIDJAN (R) — Liberian rebel leader Charles Taylor has said he will organise a general election for Oct. 10 in the war-torn West African country.

Speaking in a radio interview with the British Broadcasting Corporation's (BBC) Africa Service, Taylor said the poll would be open to opposition groups including a breakaway rebel faction led by Prince Johnson.

"By Oct. 10 we hope to have all assembly members elected," Taylor said, repeating that he regarded himself president of Liberia.

Taylor said elected members would be sworn in by Oct. 15.

Taylor announced a ceasefire at noon Saturday to end fighting between his men and West African peacekeeping troops, on whom he had declared war. The ceasefire has largely been observed.

Johnson's men, who control part of the centre of Monrovia, the Liberian capital, and who killed former President Samuel Doe two weeks ago, have not been involved in fighting for several days.

Taylor said he was sending a 10-man delegation to talk to the Johnson faction.

But he repeated his long-standing claim that the real Johnson is dead, killed in an ambush several weeks ago, and that the Johnson in Monrovia is a puppet of the United States.

Journalists and other witnesses who met Johnson before the alleged ambush say he is still alive.

Also Sunday, details emerged about the torture-slaying of Doe.

Sources in the West African economic community said Johnson, whose forces were responsible for Doe's murder, plan to meet with Taylor Friday in Freetown, Sierra Leone, for peace talks that would be observed by U.S. officials.

The rapprochement follows a peace mission by U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Herman Cohen, who met with both men last week and urged them to negotiate a political settlement to the civil war.

Johnson is a former lieutenant of Taylor who formed a breakaway faction in March. The two rebel leaders have been fighting each other and Doe's forces in the capital for the past few months.

Agence France-Presse, the

French news agency, in a report from a correspondent travelling behind rebel lines, said Taylor announced elections at a news conference in Gbarnga town, 120 kilometres northeast of Monrovia.

It said he had invited the United Nations and the Organisation of African Unity to monitor the unilateral truce to be declared at midday Saturday.

The first details of Doe's slaying were published Sunday by London's Observer newspaper.

It quoted a Lebanese merchant from Monrovia, identified only as Joseph, who said he watched Johnson's men torture Doe to death after his capture on Sept. 9.

"Doe's hands were cuffed together and he had been shot in both legs and was bleeding heavily. They were abusing him. Then one of Johnson's men took a knife, a machete, and cut off his ear. Then they cut his face like this," he said, indicating diagonal slashes across the cheeks.

"He was crying and the blood was running down his cheeks from his face and head."

Joseph, interviewed in Freetown, Sierra Leone by the newspaper, said Doe kept blowing

on the blood, which was collecting in the centre of his body.

Then, one of Johnson's men thought he was trying to do some kind of Juju (magic), blowing on himself to make himself disappear. So he shot him again.

"He was nearly dead then, anyway, from loss of blood," Joseph said. That was the last he saw of Doe.

The Observer quoted a Liberian teacher named Oliver as saying he saw Doe's body later that day.

"They had him in a wheelbarrow and were pushing the body around the town. They were shouting, 'We've killed Doe,' and firing their guns in the air.

"People were coming up to the body and cutting it with knives. Slashing at him. He had two fingers, maybe three, missing from one hand and they had cut off his testicles," the teacher said.

Their description was reminiscent of an October 1985 scene in which Doe put the mutilated body of Brig.-Gen. Thomas Quiwonkpa on display in an open car that was driven through Monrovia. Quiwonkpa had led a coup attempt against Doe and was a mentor of Johnson.

## Cambodian factions prepare for new peace talks

BANGKOK (R) — Cambodian factions moved quickly Monday to set up a new peace conference to end the 11 year war between guerrillas and the Phnom Penh government after a compromise on the composition of the Supreme National Council (SNC).

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Representatives of three guerrilla factions met Thai Foreign Ministry officials Monday and a guerrilla source said to be expected the SNC to meet again by the end of this week.

Among the first tasks for the SNC would be the selection of a unified delegation to send to the UN General Assembly.

"I am sure that we can agree on at least two issues, on the appointing of a chairman and nominating the delegation to the UN," the source said.

"If these two go smoothly we may have time to bring up self-restraint (a ceasefire) or a moratorium (on arms shipments into Cambodia)," he added.

A Foreign Ministry official in Phnom Penh told Reuters Hun Sen was ready to go to Bangkok, as soon as he was invited.

We're waiting for the green light from Bangkok, he said. A senior Thai official said his government was in touch with Phnom Penh.

The SNC is a key element of a U.N. Security Council plan to end the bloodletting in Cambodia between the Vietnam-backed Phnom Penh government and the guerrilla alliance which includes the formidable Khmer Rouge supported by China.

The Maoist Khmer Rouge hold the Cambodia seat at the U.N., which does not recognise the Phnom Penh government installed by the Vietnamese army after it ousted the Khmer Rouge.

Another 30 people were reported missing by the Red Cross.

The storm, which began Saturday night, dumped more than 13 centimetres of rain on the area around Chihuahua City, a city of more than 600,000 located over 1,100 kilometres north of Mexico City.

Rain continued Monday morning and was forecast to continue for several days, increasing the danger that two nearly full dams nearby might spill over.

More than 350 homes were destroyed and another 1,000 were damaged, said Gov. Fernando Baeza Melendez.

The last two coup attempts against Aquino, in August 1987 and December 1989, came after the government raised oil prices.

Armed Forces Chief General Renato de Villa placed the 150,000-strong military on red alert around the country to forestall any violence.

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